United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Friday, August 13, 2004
From: Jon J. Gulch, On-Scene Coordinator

To: Dana Stalcup, U.S. EPA
Jason El-Zein, U.S. EPA
Afif Marouf, U.S. EPA
Mick Hans, U.S. EPA
Duty Officer, USCG
Reginald Brown, Ohio EPA
John Maritote, U.S. EPA
Thomas Geishecker, U.S. EPA
William Messenger, U.S. EPA
Virginia Narsete, EPA, ERB-CIC
Stuart Hill, U.S. EPA
Scott Shane, Ohio EPA
Tracy Johnson, U.S. EPA

44087-2219
OH-144

Subject: First and Final
Univar HCl Spill
1686 Highland Street, Twinsburg, OH

POLREP No.:	1	**Site #:**	05ZZ
Reporting Period:	08/11/04 to 08/12/04	**D.O. #:**	
Start Date:	8/11/2004	**Response Authority:**	CERCLA
Mob Date:	8/12/2004	**Response Type:**	Emergency
Completion Date:		**NPL Status:**	Non NPL
CERCLIS ID #:		**Incident Category:**	Removal Action
RCRIS ID #:		**Contract #**	

Site Description

The incident occurred at Univar USA located at 1686 Highland Road, Twinsburg, Summit County, Ohio. The geographical coordinates for the site are north 41o17'49" and west 81o27'39". Univar is a chemical blending facility and is located in an industrial park. A residential community is located approximately 0.25 miles to the north of the facility. The site is bordered to the north by Highland Road; to the east by North Bolye Street, and to the south by a Conrail spur that services the industrial park. A drainage ditch runs along the southern perimeter of the site. The ditch discharges into a unnamed tributary of Tinkers Creek approximately 0.5 miles downstream.

U.S. EPA was initially notified of the spill at approximately 1900 hours on August 11, 2004. OSC Gulch contacted Ohio EPA and the Twinsburg Fire Chief and was informed that the spill had been contained and the situation was under control. The incident commander (IC) evacuated approximately 72 businesses surrounding the facility. At approximately 0300 on August 12, 2004, Ohio EPA requested U.S. EPA assistance due to a change in weather conditions that resulted in fuming of the contained acid spill.

Current Activities

On August 11, 2004, U.S. EPA OSC Gulch was informed of the release and made contact with the Ohio EPA OSC and the Twinsburg Fire Department Chief. At the time, the spill HCl was under control and contained.

On August 12, 2004, U.S. EPA OSC Gulch recieved a request from Ohio EPA to respond to provide air monitoring support due to a change in weather conditions. At approximately 0600, EPA OSC Gulch and START arrived on site and were briefed by Ohio EPA and the IC. At this time fumes were still being release from the on site containment area. Ohio EPA requested that START conduct perimeter air monitoring to assess off-site migration. START conducted perimeter air monitoring using Acid and Chlorine Draeger tubes. No positive indications of acid or chlorine gas was detected around the site perimeter.

The facilities contractors and employees continued to conduct cleanup activities on and off site. Concerns regarding health and safety of workers was addressed. START conducted a level C entry into the onsite work zone to conduct air monitoring. Acid Draeger Tubes indicated acid levels of approximately 5-20 parts per million (ppm) in this area. U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA informed Univar personnel that all onsite workers need to be in appropriate personnel protective equipment (PPE).

The IC request that START conduct air monitoring in the residential communities located north of the facility. No positive indications of acid or chlorine gas was detected in the residential communities.

At approximately 1200 hours on August 12, 2004, the IC requested another round of perimeter monitoring. No positive indications of acid or chlorine gas was detected around the site perimeter. Following these results, the IC lifted the evacuation. A small portion of North Boyle Road was closed until the eastern portion of the drainage ditch was remediated.

Air monitoring was conducted at regular intervals during all clean-up activities. No positive indications of acid or chlorine gas was detected inside or outside of the off site work zones.

At approximately 2300 hours on August 12, 2004, the eastern portion of the ditch was remediated and all activities were suspended until the following morning.

On August 13, 2004, START mobilized to site and met with a Univar representative. Univar's employees and contractors powerwased the contaminated concrete pad that had been treated with soda ash. START conducted perimeter monitoring with no positive indications of acid or chlorine gas detected. An industrial hygenist hired by Univar also conducted perimeter and work zone moniroing with no positive indications of acid or chlorine gas. Ohio EPA requested that the pH in the ditch be monitored. The pH in the ditch was slightly corrosive. After investigation, the elevated pH was due to caustic soda ash which was located in the ditch immediately south of the spill area. The soda ash and impacted sediment in this area of the ditch was excavated. Once this material was removed the pH in the ditch returned to neutral.

On August 14, 2004, START mobilized to stie to conduct site reconnassiance and montoring of the ditch. No clean-up activities were conducted. The pH of the ditich was tested in five downstream locations. The pH at all locations was neutral.

On August 16, 2004, START contacted a Univar representative to get an update on site activities. The Univar representative stated that Ohio EPA had been on site and requested additional pH monitoring in the ditch at the locations of Univar's check valves which run into the ditch. The pH of the stream had remained neutral. Univar stated that the containment dikes needed to be powerwashed and transportation and disposal of waste coordinated.

Planned Removal Actions

- ☐ Power wash containment pad
- ☐ Coordinate transportation and disposal of waste streams

Next Steps

- ☐ START will document a meeting with a group of PRP's who are meeting to determine the cause of the release and work to prevent another release.
- ☐ START will conduct a final site visit to monitor the pH in the ditch.
- ☐ A final report from the PRP will be requested by EPA. This report should detail the cause of the spill, efforts being made to prevent future releases, and documentation of the clean-up and disposal of spilled material and contaminated debris.

Key Issues

None.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
RST/START	$10,000.00	$6,000.00	$4,000.00	40.00%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct (Region, HQ)	$5,000.00	$1,500.00	$3,500.00	70.00%
Total Site Costs	$15,000.00	$7,500.00	$7,500.00	50.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.